

**TUCSON SUPPLEMENTAL RETIREMENT SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Tucson Supplemental Retirement System (TSRS) Board of Trustees and to the general public that the TSRS Board will hold the following meeting virtually (remotely) using Microsoft Teams on:

**Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 8:30 A.M.**

**MEETING NOTE:** Due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which have prompted declarations of a public health emergency at the local, state and federal levels, this meeting will be conducted using measures to protect public health. This meeting will be held remotely through technological means, as permitted under Arizona law. The meeting will not include any items that will involve time set aside for public comments. The meeting will be recorded and posted to City Boards, Committees, and Commissions website for public review.

**IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE PROHIBITED.**

**PLEASE BE AWARE THAT THESE MEASURES ARE IN PLACE TO LIMIT THE NEED FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE IN LARGE PUBLIC GATHERINGS, WHILE ENSURING THAT THE DISCUSSIONS, DELIBERATIONS AND ACTIONS OF THE TSRS BOARD ARE TRANSPARENT AND CONDUCTED OPENLY.**

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For those individuals new to Microsoft Teams, please download the application and be ready when the meeting starts using the following information:

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[+1 213-293-2303, 37570554#](#) United States, Los Angeles

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A) Call to Order

**Chairman Mark Rubin calls meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.**  
**Elsa Quijada and Vivian Newsheller absent at roll call.**

B) Consent Agenda

1. Approval of March 2022 Ratification Report
2. Approval of February 24, 2022, Regular Minutes
3. February 2022 Budget to Actual Report
4. February 2022 Investment Performance Report

**Elsa Joins meeting at 8:02 a.m.**

**Motion to approve Consent agenda made by Jorge Hernandez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeffrey Whiting. Motion passes 6-0.**

C) Administrative Discussions

1. Funding Policy Review

Art Cuaron provides the Board with contextual information about this item and adds a reminder of the process in which the Board has review the actuarial recommendations to close the amortization period, reduce the amortization period to 15 year and reduce the discount rate to 6.75% from 7%. Dana Woolfrey from Gabriel Roeder Smith adds that the recommendation is to close the amortization with layered amortization, and this is the most important recommendation from her standpoint.

Chairman Mark Rubin clarifies if the Board can act on the 3 recommendations as mutually exclusive items. Dana responds in the affirmative. The Board can act on one or all three or two of the three.

**Motion to adopt a Closed Layered Amortization effective with the July 1st, 2022, evaluation, made by Jim Wysocki, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeffrey Whiting. Motion passes 6-0.**

**Motion to approve change to discount rate from 7.00% to 6.75% effective with the July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, evaluation made by Kevin Larson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jim Wysocki. Motion passes 6-0.**

**Motion to shorten amortization period from 20 years to 15 years effective with the July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, evaluation made by Jorge Hernandez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jeffrey Whiting. Motion fails 0-6.**

2. Update on FY 2023 Budget Preparation

Art updated and explained to the Board the approach to the FY 2023 budget will be different than prior years in that the FY 22 adopted budget will serve as the base budget with additions being known escalators such as personnel and insurance costs.

Discussion and approval from the TSRS Board will be presented in the April Board meeting.

3. Review Disability Code Language, Application, and Process

Art provided a brief explanation as to the intent of the item and clarified for the Board that goal was to review the code language, application and process with intent of refining the three to make it easier for the Board

and the applicant to understand the decision the Board is asked to make based on the information provided in the application with the underlying code language serving as the foundation for the decision.

Pete Saxton presented an overview of the TSRS Disability application process. This overview noted that the City Code requires the Board to make a determination of an applicant based on the legal standard of permanent and total disability, meaning that the applicant is unable to perform any gainful employment for the City. However, the medical reviewer cannot provide a medical opinion on whether an individual is unable to perform any gainful employment for the City because there are too many different jobs with different requirements for specific knowledge skills and ability. To reduce the uncertainty of whether an applicant meets the criteria for disability, we could consider updates to City Code or we could consider updates to data collection procedures.

Catherine Langford noted that this type of challenge is faced by other pension trustees and there is no industry standard. The Board discussed requiring applicants to attempt to get a workplace accommodation prior to applying for disability benefits, and the Board discussed how the Social Security Administration handles disability claims.

The Board will review this topic in greater detail in future meetings and have requested additional information be provided regarding how the City of Phoenix and other pension plans review their disability applications.

D) For the Board's Consideration

1. What Happens to Stock Markets When the Fed Hikes Rate
2. Public Pensions Want to Divest from Russia, But Can They?
3. Inflation Leaves the Fed with No Good Choices

E) Adjournment

**Chairman Mark Rubin adjourns meeting at 9:57 a.m.**

**Members Remotely Present:**

Mark Rubin, Chairman  
Elsa Quijada, Interim Co-Director of Human Resources  
Kevin Larson, City Manager Appointee  
Jorge Hernandez, Elected Representative  
James Wysocki, Elected Retiree Representative  
Jeffrey Whiting, Elected Representative

**Member Absent:**

Vivian Newsheller, Deputy Director Controller



**Staff Remotely Present:**

Art Cuaron, Pension & Benefits Administrator  
Pete Saxton, Pension Manager  
Dawn Davis, Lead Pension Analyst  
Noemi Gonzalez, Pension & Benefits Administrative Assistant  
Tina Gamez, Pension Analyst

**Guest Remotely Present:**

Catherine Langford, Yoder & Langford  
Paul Erlendson, Callan, LLC  
Dana Woolfrey, Gabriel Roeder Smith (GRS)

**Please Note: Legal Action may be taken on any agenda item**


\*Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3) and (4): the board may hold an executive session for the purposes of obtaining legal advice from an attorney or attorneys for the Board or to consider its position and instruct its attorney(s) in pending or contemplated litigation. The board may also hold an executive session pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(1) for the discussion or consideration of matters specific to an identified public officer, appointee, or employee or pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(2) for purposes of discussion or consideration of records, information or testimony exempt by law from public inspection.

E-SIGNED by Mark Rubin  
on 2022-07-22 23:02:54 GMT

July 22, 2022

Mark Rubin  
Chairman of the Board

Date

  
Art Cuaron

7-26-2022

Date

Pension & Benefits Administrator